(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Funds sanctioned by EU Commission to Agha Khan Foundation for rural development

2604. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that European Union Commission sanctioned some amount to Agha Khan Foundation in India to support the community based rural development;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the total amount sanctioned and the terms and conditions of such a support; and

(c) whether Government have right to monitor such a scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) and (b) As per available information, the European Commission has singed an Agreement with the Agha Khan Foundation,- a U.K. based NGO - for a project captioned "Sustainable Community Based Approaches to Livelihood Enhancement" (SCALE) in India for which an assistance of Euro 25.5 million will be provided by the European Commission to the Foundation. This project is outside the purview of the Indo-EC-Bilateral Development Cooperation Programme for which Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India is the nodal agency. The details of the project, in brief, are given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(c) Since it is a NGO project, Government of India do not monitor the project.

Statement

Details of Project "Sustainable Community-Based Approaches to Livelihoods Enhancement" (SCALE)

1. Objective, Duration and Area of Operation

The SCALE project aims at undertaking field intervention to promote and demonstrate community-based natural resources management approaches around key resource issues for tangible and sustainable benefits at the local level, and at improving the policy framework as well as the implementation of policies impacting rural livelihoods through targeted research, advocacy, net working and training. The project components would be field implementations and an outreach programme.

The field implementation component will be implemented in three districts in Gujarat and a fourth district in a semi-arid region in Gujarat or a neighbouring state to be selected during the Inception Phase.

The wider outreach programme will be implemented in the semi-arid areas of India.

The duration of the project will be 10 years.

2. Implementation arrangements

The Aga Khan Foundation (India) will have management responsibility for the project supported by relevant AKF offices elsewhere and other voluntary organisations.

Components that fall under "Field Implementation" will predominantly be implemented through Aga Khan Rural Support Programme, India (AKRSP), is working in 450 villages in three districts of Gujarat, reaching out to over 40,000 households.